

NAGAOKA -- 09/978,543
Client/Matter: 008312-0283791


REMARKS

Claims 1,2 4-7, 9-12 and 14-16 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are amended and claims 3, 8, 13 and 17 are cancelled. Reconsideration in view of the above-outlined amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 8, 13 and 17. In response, claims 6, 11 and 16 are amended to include the features of claims 3, 8, 13 and 17, respectfully. The above-outlined amendments to claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 address the objections to claims 3, 8, 13 and 17, "virtual directly" has been changed to "virtual directory" as requested by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims define subject matter that is patentable over the prior art of record. Should any issues require further resolution, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney to discuss and resolve these issues.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP


GLENN T. BARRETT
Reg. No. 38705
Tel. No. 703.905.2011
Fax No. 703.905.2500

Date: December 7, 2004
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000